

**In the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A mechanical dishwashing composition comprising:
- (A) an anti-scaling polymer formed from
    - (i) 50 to 99% by weight of the polymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic monomer;
    - (ii) 1 to 50% of at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of copolymerizable sulfonated monomers, copolymerizable nonionic monomers and mixtures thereof;
  - (B) 0.1 to 99.9% of a vehicle designed to release at least an effective amount of the polymer to prevent scaling ;

wherein said polymer is released into a penultimate rinse cycle of a dishwashing sequence;

wherein said vehicle of (B) is defined as (1) the sum of all components forming said composition except for said antiscaling polymer; or (2) an encapsulating material or other slow release protective chemical or device.

3. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein said vehicle is designed to further release at least an effective amount of the polymer into a final rinse of the dishwashing cycle to prevent scaling.

7. (Amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein the olefinically unsaturated carboxylic monomer is in acid or salt form selected from the group consisting of aliphatic acids, monocarboxylic acids, dicarboxylic acids, polycarboxylic acids and mixtures thereof.

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12. (Amended) A method for washing soiled dishes comprising charging a mechanical dishwashing composition to a wash liquor in a washing machine, the composition comprising:

(A) an anti-scaling polymer formed from

(i) 50 to 99% by weight of the polymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer;

(ii) 1 to 50% of at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of copolymerizable sulfonated monomers, copolymerizable nonionic monomers and mixtures thereof;

(B) 0.1 to 99.9% of a vehicle designed to release at least an effective amount of the polymer to prevent scaling;

wherein said vehicle of B is defined as (1) the sum of all components forming said composition except for said anti-scaling polymer; or (2) an encapsulating material or other slow release protective chemical or device;

wherein said method comprises changing said dishwashing composition to a penultimate rinse cycle of a dishwashing sequence.